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RAINFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1958

F. W. BUNTING, M.B.E., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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RAINFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1958

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: J. SMITH, ESQ., J.P.  
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VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: S. LEIGHTON, ESQ.  
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CHAIRMAN OF TOWN PLANNING AND HEALTH  
COMMITTEE

Mr. J. Molyneux

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mrs. S. Heyes

CHAIRMAN OF HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mr. E. Wainwright

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr. H. Webster  
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MEMBERS

Mr. J.R. Austin, J.P.  
Mr. J.R. Rosbotham  
Mr. R.L. Alcock  
Mr. S. Lewis  
Mr. R. Rose  
Mr. S. Abbott  
Mr. R. Webster, C.C.  
Mr. W.S. Darlington  
Mr. R.R. Bowdler

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: G. WALKER, ESQ.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
F.W. BUNTING, M.B.E., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
R.C. HAYCOCK, A.R.S.I., A.M.Inst.H.E.

Clerk  
Mrs. R.J. Pennington



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Council Offices,

RAINFORD.

August, 1959.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RAINFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the 28th Annual Report on the health of Rainford for the year ending 31st December, 1958.

I am again glad to report that the health of the community has remained satisfactory during the year.

The adjusted death rate of 9.9 compares very favourably with previous years and showed a reduction compared with 1957 which was 12.2.

The adjusted birth rate has shown a slight decrease being 15.6 compared with 16.9 for the year 1957.

The death rate amongst children under the age of one year (infant mortality) was 53 per 1,000 live births compared with 39 per 1,000 live births during 1957. The average over the past five years was 27.4 per 1,000 live births. Eight infants died during the year.

There has been a marked decrease in the number of infectious diseases. 28 cases were notified during the year 1958 compared with 87 during 1957. Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with seven during 1957.

I am again happy to report that no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis have been notified and am also happy to report that for the tenth successive year there were no maternal deaths.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

F.W. BUNTING

Medical Officer of Health.





3.  
STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,877
Registrar General's estimate of population mid-1958	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,570
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1958) according to Rate Book	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,564
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£38,810
Product of a Penny Rate	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£162

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births		Deaths All Causes		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality	
No. registered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 total births
Year 1958 75	15.6	37	9.9	3	38.5	Nil	Nil
" 1957 77	16.9	46	12.2	2	25	-	-
" 1956 83	18.5	50	13.6	-	-	-	-
" 1955 66	15.2	53	13.7	2	29	-	-
" 1954 85	19.7	56	14.6	2	23	-	-
" 1953 84	19.3	48	12.3	2	23	-	-
Average 5 yrs. 1953 - 1957	17.9	-	13.3	-	20	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY

Total			Neo-Natal	
No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births		No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1958	4	53.3	4	53.3
" 1957	3	39	2	26
" 1956	2	24	1	12
" 1955	1	15	-	-
" 1954	3	35	2	24
" 1953	2	24	2	24
Average 5 years 1953 - 1957		27.4	-	17.2

Adjusted live birth rate (comparability factor 0.95) - 15.6 per 1,000  
Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.22) - 9.9 per 1,000

## DETAILS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Total	M	F
Legitimate	73	40	33
Illegitimate	2	1	1
TOTAL	75	41	34
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1958 - 15.6			
Deaths	Total	M	F
TOTAL	37	23	14

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1958 - 9.9

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - nil  
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - Nil

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births - 53.3

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births - 53.3

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate Live births - Nil

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age - 4

Mortality rate per 1,000 live births - 53.3



## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1958 FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases  
for England and Wales in the year 1958

Provisional figures based on Registrar-General's Weekly and Quarterly Returns

Estimated home population mid-1958  
45,109,000

<u>Births</u>	No.	Rate per 1,000 home population
Live births	738,323	16.4
Still births	16,274	( 0.36
		( 21.6 (a)
<u>Deaths</u>		
All Causes	526,792	11.7
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4,480	0.10
Respiratory	4,000	0.09
Non-respiratory	480	0.01
Cancer (all forms)	95,799	2.12
Lung and bronchus	19,809	0.44
Other cancer	75,990	1.68
Maternal Mortality (total)	326	0.43 (a)
Maternal causes (excluding abortion)	263	0.35 (a)
Due to abortion	63	0.08 (a)
Infant mortality	16,620	22.5 (b)
Neo-natal mortality	11,969	16.2 (b)
<u>Notifications (corrected)</u>		
Typhoid fever	147	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	199	0.00
Meningococcal infection	836	0.02
Scarlet fever	38,844	0.86
Whooping Cough	33,384	0.74
Diphtheria	79	0.00
Erysipelas	3,290	0.07
Smallpox	5	0.00
Measles	259,221	5.75
Acute pneumonia	22,297	0.49
Acute poliomyelitis -		
Paralytic	1,410	0.03
Non-paralytic	587	0.01
Acute encephalitis -		
Infective	170	0.00
Post-infectious	119	0.00
Dysentery	38,101	0.84
Food poisoning	8,931	0.20
Puerperal pyrexia	10,777	0.24
Tuberculosis -		
Respiratory	26,595	0.59
Meninges & C.N.S.	262	0.01
Other	3,231	0.07

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births  
(b) Per 1,000 live births

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

There have been no major changes in the General Health Services during the year.

The Child Welfare and Ante-natal clinics which are run by the Lancashire County Council continue to be much appreciated by mothers in Rainford and are well attended.

A very successful children's party was again held in the Village Hall at Christmas Time, the hall being very kindly loaned by courtesy of the Rainford U.D.C.

### Immunisation

#### Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

This is the responsibility of the local Divisional Health Committee. Immunisation is available against diphtheria alone, or against diphtheria and whooping cough, or against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus by the use of combined vaccines.

#### Poliomyelitis immunisation

During the year vaccination against poliomyelitis was made available at the clinic.

Children who completed course of injections...	...	...	250
Antenatal patients who completed course of injections	...	...	40
Children who received one injection only	...	...	38
Antenatal patients who received one injection only	...	...	6
Booster doses given	...	...	285

### Dysentery

There were no cases of dysentery notified during the year.

### Scarlet Fever

There were 5 cases of scarlet fever notified during the year. All cases were of a mild type.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water

The water undertaking has been taken over by St. Helens Corporation. The Council have one representative on the joint board.

### Sewerage & Sewage Disposal

The present sewage works at Rookery Lane and Berringtons Lane continue to show good effluent but as the works are getting older and more houses have been erected maintenance of these works presents an increasing problem.

Schemes for the improvement of these two works are in hand and it is hoped a general overhaul and re-conditioning of both works will be carried out as soon as circumstances permit.

### Sewerage requirements

There are two sewage works, one situated in Berringtons Lane which serves modern property fronting St. Helens Road, and this is capable of extension. The sewage works at Rookery Lane serves Rainford Village. The main sewer is capable of extension to take sewage from portions of the North End.

Schemes for Crank and the North End sewerage are now complete and discussions are continuing with the Ministry of Health and other interested parties with a view to estimates being obtained and the work carried out as soon as possible.



Closet accommodation

Type	No.
Pails ... ..	64
Wet closets with ashpits ... ..	180
Dry Ashpits ... ..	2
Fresh water closets ... ..	1418
Ashbins ... ..	1414

Public Cleansing

This continues to be one of the Council's biggest problems due to the scattered nature of the district and the distance away from the main tip. Expenditure is high and increased housing is making the position more difficult.

There are seasonal increases in the contents of bins with the consequence that bin collecting and privy emptying have to suffer.

Ashpit privy conversion

During the year 3 privy closets were converted to fresh water closets. This leaves approximately 180 to be converted.

## HOUSING

Six Council houses have been erected at Bartons Row on the site of the eight unfit houses which were demolished. The following properties are unfit and closing notices have been served.

Nos. 1 and 2 Victoria Street.

The Council have in hand a scheme for the erection of a further number of Council houses.

## RODENT CONTROL

Routine inspections of farms and premises throughout the district is carried out and action taken where necessary.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Shops

The Shops Act, 1934 and Shops Act, 1950, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences are administered by the Urban District Council.

Number of Food Premises, by type, registered in the District at 31st December, 1958

Type of Business	No. registered at 31.12.58	No. of inspections of registered premises during the year
Grocery and General	22	36
Butchers shops	3	5
Fish and chip	2	3
Fish and Fruit	2	8
Fruit	1	1
Bakery and Confectionery	2	24

Further action has been taken in several cases to obtain improvement of premises under the Clean Food Act.

Disposal of Condemned Food

(a) Carcase Meat A certificate of disposal is obtained from the butcher and the carcase is sent by him to a specialist firm who make up condemned meat into purposes other than for human consumption.

(b) Other foods These are disposed of on the Council refuse tip and buried to a suitable depth.

Slaughterhouse and meat inspections

One slaughterhouse was in operation during the year and regular inspections of this and the carcasses were made.

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Sheep &amp; lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
No. Killed	84	389	56
No. Inspected	75	350	50
Tuberculosis only -			
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	

Milk SupplyThe Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 - 1954

No. of Distributors registered by the local authority and operating from:

(a) Dairies in the District	8
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	1
(c) Premises outside the district	3

Time and attention is devoted to this important subject with a view to providing and maintaining a pure and safe milk supply.

Inspections of premises to ensure a pure milk supply were continued during the year and 26 informal samples were taken.

Communal Feeding

The cooking centre in Alfred Street has been inspected and found to be constantly in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901  
& FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

No change has occurred in the number of factories and workshops within the district since last year.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year the total number of notifications of infectious diseases received was 28.

Whooping Cough

There were no cases of whooping cough notified during the year.

Measles

There was a marked decrease in the number of cases of Measles notified. 22 cases were notified compared with 70 cases during the previous year.

Scarlet Fever

5 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year but these were of a mild type.

1 case of Acute pneumonia was notified during the year.

Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year and it is now 13 years since a case was notified in the district.



THE FOLLOWING IS A TABLE OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING  
THE YEAR 1958

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Age Periods - Years									
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65& over	Age Unknown
Smallpox											
Scarlet Fever	5		2	1	2						
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)											
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding paratyphoid)											
Measles (excluding rubella)	22		2	1	18	1					
Whooping cough											
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	1							1			
Puerperal pyrexia											
Meningococcal infection											
Acute poliomyelitis											
Paralytic											
Non-paralytic											
Acute encephalitis											
Infective											
Post-infectious											
Dysentery											
Ophthalmia neonatorum											
Erysipelas											
(contracted											
Malaria(in England											
(and Wales											
(Abroad											
Food Poisoning											
Any other diseases notifiable in district e.g											
Chickenpox											
Any other disease (specify)											
Totals	28		4	2	20	1		1			

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives the numbers of new cases of both forms of the disease, together with the deaths therefrom. The figures include all primary cases and other cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0-								
1-								
2-								
5-								
10-								
15-								
20-								
25-								
35-		1						
45-			1					
55-		1						
65-	1							
75 and upwards								
Totals	1	2	1					

Following the inception of the National Health Service Act, 1948, treatment became the responsibility of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

Full co-operation exists with the Tuberculosis Officer covering the Rainford area.

